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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended): A compound of the general formula I

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^4 & R^6 \\
\hline
R^1 & \\
\hline
R^2 & \\
R^3 & R^5
\end{array}$$

wherein

R¹ and R²

are each a cyano group,

 R^3 , R^4 , R^5 and R^6

are independently selected from hydrogen atoms, unsubstituted $C_1\text{-}C_{10}$ alkyl groups, or unsubstituted $C_2\text{-}C_{10}$ alkenyl groups,

Χ

has is an alkyl, alkylphenyl, or an alkylcycloalkyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, phenyl, or an alkyl, alkylphenyl, or alkylcycloalkyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms in which the alkyl group of the alkyl, alkylphenyl, or alkylcycloalkyl is interrupted by 1-3 hetero atoms selected from the group consisting of O and N, and the alkyl interrupted by said 1-3 hetero atoms selected from the group consisting of O and N

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optionally has from one to three hydroxy functional groups, and X further has wherein the alkyl, alkylphenyl, alkylcycloalkyl, or the alkyl, alkylphenyl, or alkylcycloalkyl in which the alkyl group of the alkyl, alkylphenyl, or alkylcycloalkyl is interrupted by said 1-3 hetero atoms selected from the group consisting of O and N and optionally has from one to three hydroxyl functional groups has at least one group including at least one hetero atom selected from the group consisting of N, O, S and P which is positively or negatively charged wherein said group is selected from the group consisting of a quaternary ammonium quaternary ammonium amine group, -O-SO3-, -COO-, -O- PO_3H^- , $-O-PO_3^{-2}$, $-SO_3^-$, $-PO_3H^-$, and $-PO_3^{-2}$, and X has from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and from 1 to 10 hetero atoms, and

is a counterion selected from the group consisting of a quaternary ammonium ion, an alkali metal ion, an alkali earth metal ion, a triethanol ammonium ion, an aminomethylpropanol ion, a tris(tromethamine) ion, and a halogen ion.

2-5. (Canceled).

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6. (Currently amended): The compound according to claim 1, wherein the at least one group including at least one hetero atom selected from the group consisting of N, O, S and P which is positively or negatively charged has one positive charge.

7. (Previously presented): The compound according to claim 6, wherein the at least one group which has one positive charge is a quaternary ammonium group.

8. (Previously presented): The compound according to claim 7, wherein Y is a halogen ion.

9. (Currently amended): The compound according to claim 1, wherein the at least one group including at least one hetero atom selected from the group consisting of N, O, S and P which is positively or negatively charged has one negative charge.

10. (Previously presented): The compound according to claim 9, wherein the at least one group which has one negative charge is selected from the group consisting of -COO⁻, -O-SO₃⁻, and -O-PO₃H⁻.

11. (Canceled).

12. (Previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^3 and R^4 are each hydrogen atoms.

13. (Previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^5 and R^6 are independently selected from hydrogen atoms and C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups.

14. (Canceled).

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15. (Currently amended): The compound according to claim 1, which is selected from the group consisting of:

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16. (Previously presented): An UV-A screening composition comprising a compound according to claim 1.

17. (Previously presented): The UV-A screening composition according to claim 16, which is a cosmetic composition for protecting skin or hair against UV-A radiation.

18-22. (Canceled).

- 23. (Previously presented): The compound according to claim 7, wherein the quaternary ammonium group is a pyridinyl.
- 24. (Previously presented): The compound according to claim 7, wherein the quaternary ammonium group comprises a charged nitrogen which interrupts the alkyl group of the alkyl, alkylphenyl, or alkylcycloalkyl.
- 25. (Currently amended): The compound according to claim 15, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

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SO3 NH(CH2CH2OH)3

SO, NH(CH2CH2OH)3

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and